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One way or another?

By Will Nicholls

They say in government the left hand often doesn't know what the right hand is doing. The analogy describes situations in which one part of the government will do something that contradicts another department's policies or statements.

This is the case with permanent placement orders authorized under the Youth Protection Act (Bill 125) when they are applied to cases involving First Nations families and children. This is a case that could very well involve a violation under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide as adopted by a UN General Assembly resolution in December 9, 1948. Article 2 states that genocide means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such:

- (a) Killing members of the group;
- (b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
- (c) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
- (d) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;
- (e) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

It could be argued that the permanent placement orders violate Article 2 (e) and possibly (b).

The AFNQL (Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador) has expressed concerns about the law and its impacts on First Nations communities and peoples in Quebec. Rightly so: since Bill 125 was adopted in July 2007, a permanent placement in a safe location, possibly outside the child's family or community, will be ordered for a child whose safety and development are still believed to be compromised following a temporary placement of 12 months (child under 2), 18 months (child aged 2 to 5 years) or 24 months (child aged 6 years or older).

This will likely result in children being placed with non-Aboriginal families as in Quebec during 2002-03, First Nations children were placed seven times more often than non-Native children. Estimates say this placement discrepancy will go to nine times for 2008-09.

Said AFNQL Chief Ghislain Picard, "If Quebec wants to implement permanent life projects, it must do so in a fair, equitable manner, which means taking the means necessary to ensure First Nations families and children benefit from the same services other Quebecers do."

This is the heart of the matter. Services available outside First Nations are far superior to those accessed within the communities. The AFNQL says the most common reasons for placements are poverty and the lack of local resources. These are also the reasons most First Nations children are placed outside the child's cultural and social environment.

The Grand Council addressed this new law at a Special General Assembly. A resolution adopted at the assembly reads, "the implementation of certain provisions has caused serious concern about the full impacts on Cree families, communities and social structures..."

People were outraged at this law during the Assembly. Most telling of all was when a majority of Cree Public Health Coordinators threatened to quit if they are forced to enforce this law.

One also remembers the infamous "60s scoop," when the government forcibly kidnapped many Aboriginal children and put them up for adoption by non-Native families. Look at the results of that residential-school-style fiasco and you can see what's coming up.

Yes, all this flack on the heels of a public apology for residential schools survivors. Canada makes a public apology but Quebec is still planning to take our children away. Will the colonial practices and attempts at genocide never end?

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photos by:
Gaston Cooper and
Will Nicholls



by
Sonny
Orr

When I grow up...

I always dreamed of being an astronaut, pilot, or anything that would get me off the Earth for a while. But because Cape Canaveral (or the Kennedy Space Center) was a bit too far off for me, the only real bet was to take up flying.

Back then, a whole industry could be built using one plane. One man, the pilot, would be responsible for fuelling, loading, inspection, planning, radioing, cleaning up and, of course, flying the plane safely back to the strip of hewed out land called a runway.

Today, a whole industry is built around the passenger or cargo. Whatever needs transporting, there's a job waiting for someone to get behind the wheel (or yoke). Because it tends to get a little confusing as to exactly which career to focus on, a whole new era of job hunting has come to your doorstep in the form of career fairs.

Today's career fair is sophisticated and fun to attend. It's an event at which a promising future might await the young student, fresh out of high school and ready to go where no student has gone before, at least from his or her respective class. A place where a pay cheque can magically appear after a few short weeks of honest labour.

Back in my day, a career fair was more like a visit to the guidance councillor, who barraged you with a lot of pamphlets exhorting to attend more school, in order to get the job that everyone always wanted you to get. For some reason, there were very few doctors and lawyers, but so many who wanted to be a chief. I think that is because the prerequisites were having a large enough family to vote you in, and the academic accomplishments were secondary.

Well, flying only took a few hundred hours before someone trusted you enough with their life (and their plane, since many students I knew had no money to buy their own aircraft). So, for me, it seemed to be the best route to take in the shortest time. Little did I know that the weather played a big role in flying, since you could only fly around in nice weather.

Unfortunately for me, Mother Nature had so many snow and rain storms that flying meant trying to forecast when the best weather would come around. Then I would compete with all the other students for some plane rental time, or flight simulator time if you couldn't get the real thing. So getting that easy license turned out to be a year of waiting and waiting on the ground for a few hours in the air.

The motto, if the training looks too easy to be true, is to look around to see how many people are actually doing that job, before jumping into spelunking or raising horses for your daily bread and butter.

I remember one person who was concerned about their present state of mind, social status and income. I told them not to worry about today, but to think of the future when they finished school and entered the career they had been working toward. Another year won't hurt a bit, don't quit before you finish.

Sure enough, that person took the advice and now has a hard time keeping track of all the money being made and having a harder time deciding what to spend all that moolah on. Some people have just the right type of problems, eh? So, pick a career from one of those booths designed to entice you into a high-paying job, and stay in school long enough to be someone when you grow up.

the Nation is published every two weeks
by Beesum Communications

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

INDIVIDUALS & INSTITUTIONS:

\$45 PLUS TAXES

ABROAD: INDIVIDUALS: \$70 U.S.

ABROAD: INSTITUTIONS: \$85 U.S.

PAYABLE TO BEESUM COMMUNICATIONS

PRINTED BY IMPRIMERIE LEBONFON

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PUBLICATION MAIL #40015005

ISSN #1206-2642

The Nation IS A MEMBER OF:

THE JAMES BAY CREE

COMMUNICATIONS SOCIETY,

CIRCLE OF ABORIGINAL

CONTROLLED PUBLISHERS,

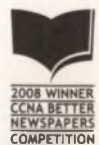
MAGAZINES CANADA

QUEBEC COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER ASSN.

CANADIAN COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS ASSN.

LES HEBDOS SÉLECT DU QUÉBEC

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Magazine Fund toward our editorial costs.



Talk is Cheap

First Nations' and Premiers' summits produce hot air on Native issues ... while Quebec's Native families are once again discriminated against

By Amy German

Quebec City was abuzz with politics July 15 as the city hosted the Canadian Premiers' summit, hosted by Jean Charest, and The Assembly of First Nations Council of the Federation meeting.

The Kelowna Accord, the UN Declaration on Indigenous Rights and ending Aboriginal poverty were the talk of both the Premiers' meeting and the Council of the Federation meeting, but the question is whether the talk will ever turn to action.

Before both meetings formally began, five of the national chiefs, including Phil Fontaine of the AFN, had the opportunity to meet privately with the premiers. Reviving the Kelowna Accord was the main topic for discussion as was elevating the socio-economic status of the Aboriginal population.

Though the implementation of Kelowna could mean a world of difference to Canada's First Peoples, Ghislain Picard, Chief of the Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador, does not see it as something that would likely pass while the current Conservative minority is at the helm of the country.

In his mind, pushing Kelowna is futile as the Conservatives have already rejected it after they came into power. "It's almost like beating a dead horse," said Picard. "That is why we said when the apology came about on June 11, if it is not followed by concrete steps to elevate some of the conditions that we so often speak about then the apology itself doesn't have real meaning."

After both meetings adjourned, Harper made a commitment July 19 to hold a first ministers meeting this fall with the provinces and territories with Aboriginal issues on the agenda.

Another hot topic at the Council of the Federation meeting was Canada's implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People.

Though a great deal is being done at both a national and international level to see the Declaration passed, so far the North West Territories is the only jurisdiction in Canada to have actual legislation for it.

"The pressure is still on and I think that we have not declared defeat," said Picard, even though the AFN was hoping to come out of the meeting with a provincial government that would agree to lead the way on adopting motions of support for the Declaration.

At this point Picard is doubtful that Quebec's National Assembly will ever adopt it. Even though letters have been exchanged and meetings have been held, listening and making the move to present a motion on the floor are two different things.

This coming fall the AFNQL will be granted a day of lobbying at the National Assembly where they hope to revive the issue and possibly make some headway.

Though health, education and social services are always on the table for discussion at the annual AFN meeting, Picard made his struggles with Bill 125, in particular, known at the assembly.

"IT IS A REPEAT OF THE RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL SYSTEM TO PUT IT SIMPLY."

Last year Quebec passed Bill 125 to amend the Youth Protection Act, whereby children whose safety and development are still believed to be compromised following a temporary placement would be expedited into permanent placements in safe locations, possibly outside of their communities. For a child under two years old, the placement would happen after one year, two to five, after 18 months and after 24 months for children six years and older.

As of July 2008, the first placements began and while the AFNQL has been fighting the bill tooth and nail, the process has been difficult. The argument is that families on reserves have less access to the varieties of social services than the rest of the general population as they fall under federal funding through Indian and Northern Affairs.

"The federal government, which is supposed to be providing assistance to us in order for us to not only make interventions but also work on prevention which is not the case right now," said Picard.

Picard met with Premier Jean Charest to discuss Bill 125 and was told that there was a provision in the law that could give First Nations the possibility of creating their own institutions. Having the actual monetary means to do so would be complicated as the funding is federal, however.

The AFNQL is presently meeting with an NGO on the Rights of the Child to see what chance they may have in repealing the bill because of the implications it would have on Aboriginal communities. They have filed for an inquiry with the Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse du Québec.

Should all else fail, the AFNQL may have no other choice but to contest the bill legally.

"It is a repeat of the residential school system to put it simply because you have children potentially not only being taken away from their families but from their communities and being placed permanently outside and without any liberty to come back to the community," said Picard.

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Chisasibi man swarmed

Edward Bearskin hospitalized after attack

By Amy German

In a brutal July 4 incident, Chisasibi resident Edward Bearskin was savagely beaten by a group of nine young men, including five under 17, while walking home from work. The Chisasibi police station has confirmed that alcohol was a factor.

The attackers used pieces of lumber to pummel him repeatedly, rendering him almost unconscious. "It just happened out of nowhere as I was trying to walk away, they just wouldn't stop," said Bearskin.

Bearskin remembers the group of apparently intoxicated teens and young men trying to talk to him as he walked by. He does admit though that after receiving a massive blow to the head he does not remember much. He was not robbed, nor did there seem to be any other motivation for the incident.

After being attacked for approximately two minutes, Bearskin's next recollection was that of a neighborhood friend calling the police.

"Thank god for him as had it not been for him I really don't know what would have happened to me," said Bearskin.

According to Robert Shem, assistant director of the Chisasibi police force, police were first notified by a call at 10:40 a.m. from an unidentified female who reported that a "gang" was beating a man who was lying on the ground. Chisasibi police say they would like the woman who placed the 911 call to come forward and provide more details on the crime.

Bearskin was medivaced to Montreal, where he underwent surgery to repair a broken nose, damage to his left eye and a broken bone beneath his left eye. He remained in hospital for over two weeks.

All nine of the alleged attackers have been arrested and charged with aggravated assault and assault with a weapon. Though the names of the youths were not released, the accused adults are Wendel Sam, Harry Sam, Nathan Sam and

Shawn Pachanos, men who Bearskin said are known in the community as the "Sam Gang."

"None of them had priors but they were all known to the police," said Shem.

Both Shem and Bearskin attested to how swarming attacks of random individuals are on the rise. They say some individuals may be reluctant to report them.

"I have seen this kind of thing happen a few times in the last year, but it was not the same people," said Shem.

Noting the prevalence of swarming attacks by youths, both in the Cree communities and across Canada, Bearskin fears that the local incidents could escalate to extremes such as in the case of 14-year-old Victoria, BC, resident Reena Virk, who was beaten and drowned by a group of teenaged girls in 1997.

Chisasibi Chief Roderick Pachano agrees that youth violence is a major issue that the community is trying to tackle. He said its roots are founded in the recent history of the Crees between the latent effects of the residential school system, colonization and massive development.

Pachano said he hadn't yet encountered this level of violence between Crees and believes that the "glamorization and glorification" of gang life in the media is partially to blame for growing youth violence in the communities.

Though violence has always existed in the communities, said Pachano, "When I was growing up it wasn't like this. We used to have fights but it wasn't like this."

After almost having lost his left eye, Bearskin said that he would most likely have a 100 per cent recovery. Doctors caution him however that he may suffer some long-term effects to his vision as a result of the attack.

Bearskin was returned to Chisasibi on July 23. More than anything he was looking forward to seeing his little girl who he missed terribly and is not yet two years old.

in brief

NAN supports Kashechewan decision

On Thursday, June 26, Nishnawbe Aski Nation gave its support to the Kashechewan community in its decision to withdraw from the policing agreement it had made with the Nishnawbe Aski Police Service (NAPS).


The decision was based on the ever-growing concerns for the health and safety of its community. Kashechewan, like many other communities in Ontario, felt that its needs could not be met under the federal government's cap on police funding.

Kashechewan Chief Jonathon Solomon had given a 30-day deadline to the Ontario government and to the federal government, demanding that they recognize the issues with the police system and find solutions for the community of 1,500 residents. The deadline was later extended when the federal government promised to negotiate.

Supporting this, Nishnawbe Aski Nation Grand Chief Stan Beardy stated, "We have spent 14 years negotiating with various levels of government with little progress in addressing the gap between the quality of police services in the Nishnawbe Aski Nation and the rest of the province. It's time that governments start taking action to address the social challenges of our communities."

Although negotiations have been going on since 1994, only one of the 39 NAPS detachments meets national building-code standards. Proper lighting, washroom facilities, monitoring capabilities and cell construction are only a few of the things needed.

Nishnawbe Aski Nation is a political territorial organization that represents 49 First Nations communities in James Bay, including Kashechewan. Together, they try to find solutions on how to make communities safer places to live in.



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'Dirty dozen' on the decline

A new study concludes that toxic chemical levels are finally dropping in Arctic food animals; the bad news is that the mercury content isn't.

The Canadian government recently released a study indicating that carcinogens such as PCBs and other toxins derived from pesticides sprayed in the south have been on the decline due to international agreements limiting the use of toxic chemicals. Since a "dirty dozen" batch of chemicals were banned at the Stockholm Convention in 2004, less chemicals are being concentrated in the Arctic by the global air currents that force them northward.

Previously, Canada's Inuit population was found to have some of the highest PCB levels in their systems of any population worldwide.

At present, the PCB levels found in beluga, narwhal, walrus and ringed seal have fallen by an average of 43 per cent since 1997. Though there were variations depending on the community, the levels of toxic chemicals have dropped among the Inuit by 20 per cent. The research group did not examine the levels of toxic chemicals found in caribou, however.

At the same time, mercury levels have seen no decrease and are still on the rise due to the burning of coal to generate power. As the US government says it will use even more coal as an energy source, this trend will most likely persist.

A survey is being conducted on all coastal Inuit communities to check actual contaminant blood levels, with similar studies to be conducted in the Northwest Territories and Labrador throughout the summer. The results will be expected in one year's time.

Kashechewan boy electrocuted

Nishnawbe-Aski Police received a call the evening of July 9 informing them that an eight-year-old boy had been electrocuted.

Jayden Lazarus had entered a transformer area by passing under the surrounding fence that was surrounding it. He had made contact with a cable that carried a charge of approximately 135,000 volts.

He was sent to the Sick Kids Hospital in Toronto.

"He is still in the hospital and he is still in a serious yet stable condition," Sergeant Bob Baxter of the Nishnawbe-Aski Police told *the Nation*.

As for how easy it was for the boy to enter the fenced area, Sgt. Baxter could not comment but did say he is "sure the community will do something to make the area more secure."

Chibougamau mayor suffers tipi injury

More than 300 people had gathered by Lac Gilman for Chibougamau's 27th Indian Day July 5, including Mayor Donald Bubar. His Honour is not likely to forget this year's event.

A large gust of wind hit one of the tipis, injuring local resident Jean Lepage and Mayor Bubar as it fell on them.

While Lepage made it out unhurt, Bubar suffered from a fracture of the 6th vertebrae and was sent to the Chibougamau hospital for three days. He is now out of the hospital and doing well.

"The mayor is not angry, of course our insurance might have to cover some expenses, which is only normal, but he is not angry at all," said Jo-Ann Toulouse, of the Cree Indian Centre of Chibougamau. "Actually, I am going to meet him for a coffee right now!"

Besides the incident, the event was very successful. Activities included the walking-out ceremony, a feast full of traditional foods and the evening ended with musical entertainment by a variety of Native artists.



Native costume sparks controversy

Haida artist and fashion designer Dorothy Grant has spoken out about the inappropriateness of the official costume that Miss Canada, Samantha Tajik, wore at the Miss Universe pageant held July 13 in Vietnam.

Donning a feathered war bonnet along with a rhinestone-studded, deerskin bikini and other Aboriginal inspired accessories, Tajik, who was originally born in Iran but raised in Canada, appeared before a global audience of one billion in the televised pageant.

Grant told Vancouver's *Georgia Straight* newspaper that sexualizing the war bonnet in the context of the costume was "offensive," as it was sexualizing a cultural and spiritual symbol.

"A war bonnet to Cree people or the Prairie Indian people, it's a sacred thing," she said. "It's used in ceremonies, in peace treaties, used in official addresses. It's not used as a costume to walk on a stage with a deer-skin bikini."

The Miss Universe Canada organization has yet to comment on Tajik's "official attire" for the pageant.

TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR DESTINY

Speakers at Career Fair inspire dreams

By Don Nicholls

Over the course of the Second Annual Career Fair, held July 8-10 in Mississauga, participants heard speeches from a number of role models on what you can do or achieve if they set their minds to it. Each one of them related a story that inspired, taught or touched us in some way.

Some speakers discussed how their families supported their dreams. They spoke of the people who inspired them to achieve greater things in their lives. On the first day we heard from Rita R. Cox, who told us of her dreams to fly, and how during school she became pregnant and wasn't sure if she could continue. But after giving birth she was back in a cockpit the next month.

Phoebe Blacksmith dreamed of becoming a chef and owning her own Aboriginal bistro, a dream that has come true with Sweetgrass, her award-winning restaurant in Ottawa.

We can achieve success outside of our communities as well. Stan Wesley talked about separating good role models from those who teach us what we do not want to be. He did a spectacular job of emceeing the Career Fair throughout the three-day event July 8-10. Kahnawake's Waneek Horn-Miller didn't



RCMP Booth - Police Officer Hugo Lavoie, Police Officer Max Cormier, Youth from Ouje-Bougoumou

settle for just doing okay, she said. Horn-Miller emphasized the need to set our sights on greatness. She targeted a water polo gold medal in the Olympics, and while she did not win one she achieved her real goal of competing in the Olympics.

Internationally renowned musician and composer John Kim Bell also said we need to think bigger. Every time in his life when someone asked him about what he

would like to do, they would encourage him to think bigger. When he followed this advice, he was able to achieve bigger goals such as creating the National Aboriginal Achievement Awards.

Shane Baker, who was blinded from a head injury, told us to never give up on ourselves, to keep trying every day no matter the obstacles or tragedy that comes your



Stan Wesley (Master of Ceremonies), Henry Mianscum (Director of CHRD),
Linda Shecapio (Event Coordinator), John Kim Bell (Keynote Speaker)

Culture and Education Programs booth



CHRD booth



The provincial park gang

way. You have to believe you can overcome anything.

We learned that it doesn't matter where you come from or who you are you can achieve anything you set your mind to. We need an attitude that we will succeed, and it can take us a long way. We learnt that there is no set recipe for success or for achieving your dream.

Chief Clarence Louie of the Osoyoos Indian Band in British Columbia brought the crowd to its feet with his presentation about the need to create wealth to give people jobs and support programs in Native communities. He has raised the standard of living in his community

through economic development. He told the leaders to look at the 15-year-olds around them, and ask themselves what job will be waiting for them in five years. Every Native person, especially the youth, needs the dignity of a job.

Finally, from Cree Grand Chief Matthew Mukash we learned that there are a number of new opportunities for Cree youth and people as our communities and governments are expanding. There are a number of new economic activities happening within our region that we are participating in so we can have a sustainable economy with employment for generations to come.



Waneek Horn-Miller (Motivational Speaker)

IT IS NEVER TOO LATE

The time to start making the future happen is now

By Don Nicholls

It is funny how economics plays a key role in our lives. Before heading off to university, I knew I wanted to help people so I thought about medicine. However, I was talking with people in

strong economy we would be able to do anything. I took 26 economics courses, which the university said was more than anyone had done in the past. I really wanted to understand all aspects of an

A consistent observation made by economists and finance ministers is that the greatest investment a people can make when building a strong economy is to invest in their own people. In other words, education, training and human resources are key to a successful economy. You must build your labour force from unskilled to semi-skilled and skilled labour, and build a good pool of professionals and managers. This is something we have embraced as a Nation in many aspects – CSB Post Secondary Programs, Adult Education, Regional Vocational Centre, Niskamoon and CHRD.

It is amazing how sometimes we will be presented with opportunities to improve things around us. In terms of

"THE GREATEST INVESTMENT A PEOPLE CAN MAKE WHEN BUILDING A STRONG ECONOMY IS TO INVEST IN THEIR OWN PEOPLE."

the community who said the best way to help people is through business.

So I started off in an administration and business program. By second year I had changed my major to economics. I knew we would be building an economy in the North, and thought if we had a

economy, from banking to development. One of my favourite courses was World Economies, in which we would have guest finance ministers in from different governments in the world each week.



Conseil Cri de la santé et des services sociaux de la Baie James
σ Dd7a b7 ΔΓΔ ΔΓΔ Δaa b7C7bσΔ
Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay

-Public Health Advisory-
July 15, 2008

MINE WASTE SPILL NEAR CHAPAIS

On June 23, a dike broke on a settling-pond containing wastes from the former Opemiska copper mine near Chapais. Some of the contents spilled out and washed away part of the highway, and rushed into a stream which joins the Obatogamau River. Such events should not happen and we hope that they will be prevented in the future.

The Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Natural Resources have been testing the water where the spill happened and downstream as far as the Waswanipi Bridge. Based on the results of these tests, the **Public Health Department of the Cree Board of Health advises that there is no danger to human health from eating fish taken downstream.** No mass fish die-off has been reported in the area and it is still safe to swim in the area.

But, throughout Canada, water taken directly from lakes, rivers and streams often contain germs which could cause diarrhea. Boiling the water for one minute kills the germs and makes it safe for drinking.

For more information:

Dr. Elizabeth Robinson,

Public Health Physician

Mathieu Trépanier,

Environmental Health Officer

Phone: 514-861-2352



**Société d'énergie
de la Baie James**

NAVIGABLE WATERS PROTECTION ACT S.R.C. (1985), c. N-22

Hydro-Québec hereby gives notice that an application has been made to the Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities pursuant to the Navigable Waters Protection Act for approval of the work described herein and its site and plans.

Pursuant to section 9 of the said Act, Hydro-Québec has deposited with the Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities and the District Registrar of the Land, Registry District of Lac-Saint-Jean-Ouest, at Roberval under deposit number 15 383 921 a description of the following work, its site and plans:

Construction of a temporary bridge on the Nemiscau River, on an undivided portion of the Rupert River watershed cadastral district, bordered on all sides by another undivided portion of the Rupert River watershed cadastral district. The boundaries and abutments of the temporary bridge are located in a lot delineated by the following geographical coordinates:

Latitude: 51°30'15.68" N

Longitude: 76°27'54.05" W

Latitude: 51°30'16.43" N

Longitude: 76°28'00.54" W

Latitude: 51°30'15.05" N

Longitude: 76°28'00.95" W

Latitude: 51°30'14.30" N

Longitude: 76°27'54.46" W

Comments regarding the impacts of this work on marine navigation may be directed to the Manager of Navigable Waters Protection Program, Transport Canada, 901, Cap Diamant 3rd floor, Québec (Québec) G1K 4K1. However, comments will be considered only if they are in writing and are received no later than one month after the date of this notice. Although all comments conforming to the above will be considered, no individual response will be sent.

Dated at Montreal this 11th day of July, 2008.

education, some of the superintendents of the elite middle and secondary schools in the country have asked to be paired with our schools. In pairing, their administrators and teachers would share resources, experience and the approaches that have made them and their students successful. In exchange their students and staff would be educated on Aboriginal issues. Most of these people are the future leaders of Canadian society, and they will go

"THERE ARE 370 MILLION INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN THE WORLD, AND THE VAST MAJORITY OF THEM LIVE IN POVERTY WITH LITTLE OR NO RIGHTS."

through school and life with little exposure to Aboriginal people or culture.

I was in New York City's Financial District about a year ago, when a former CEO of a large corporation told me he now heads up a foundation to help children from groups who would normally not attend Ivy League schools. He said he works with children and their parents, and he would like to work on getting Aboriginal children into these schools.

The foundation works with children at an early age, and starts bringing them to some of the best universities in the world to take courses over the summers. The parents learn how to work with their children to achieve their goals. The idea is to break the barriers down, and have a generation of Aboriginal students graduating from these schools to not only inspire others to succeed but also to be valuable resources within their Nations.



Rodney Hester



The CSB booth

Fashion Show: Manianne Mitchell (Model), Kim Picard (Fashion Designer), Nellie Wapachee (Model)

After graduating with my economics degree, I applied to law school. But it wasn't because I wanted to practice law: The teacher for my philosophy of law class had told me that those who understand the rules of society have the ability to change them for the better.

I thought about the way the laws and rules of society seemed to continually discriminate against Aboriginal peoples all over the world to keep them in a vulnerable state. There are 370 million Indigenous peoples in the world, and the vast majority of them live in poverty with little or no rights.

In Canada, we look at the standard of living in our communities, the state of our education system, our health care system, our roads and infrastructure. Our economic development and access to government services are still below the standards of the non-native municipalities often right next door. There is still systemic discrimination and policies within the government services and programs to not include Aboriginal communities or groups in accessing standards that other people in the country have on a regular basis.

While I attended one of the best law schools in country, I and other Aboriginal students faced discrimination. There were some professors who felt we should not be allowed into their classes. We worked hard, and changed the content in a number of the law courses to include Aboriginal materials, and put representatives on the boards that interviewed and selected the new professors. We fought to change the

standards around us using more honey than vinegar.

I remember when I met South Africa's Archbishop Desmond Tutu. I asked if he would have done anything different in his fight against apartheid. He said he might of used a bit more honey than vinegar. It is true that when dealing with people who support positions that are unjust or violate the fundamental rights of others, we have a tendency to get upset. It would be difficult to say how things would have unfolded in South Africa with other approaches however there were losses of many lives and the imprisonment of many of his people on their road to justice and freedom.

After graduating from law school, I took a job as the first Regional Justice Coordinator. I loved travelling through the communities to see what we could do to build a justice system that would better serve our Nation. At the time, we did not have a 20-year justice agreement with good funding so I worked on preparing a foundation on which to build programs and services.

A few years later, I received a call from the University of Arizona asking me to come to a new Masters of Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy program they were starting. So I took a year off of work and went to see how tribes like the Navajo, Hopi and Apache were approaching justice, education and other services within their Nations.

Soon after, I was asked to teach classes at the university as well, and to work on the development of a number of programs to the 22 Indian tribes in Arizona. The University sent me to



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
AND STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS
RFEOI NO. 1019

Vancouver 2010 Venues' Aboriginal Arts Program

Issued by: Vancouver Organizing Committee for the
2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games (VANOC)

Summary of Opportunity

VANOC is seeking talented and experienced Canadian Aboriginal artists interested in participating in the Vancouver 2010 Venues' Aboriginal Arts Program. This program is open to First Nations, Inuit and Métis artists with a variety of professional backgrounds, levels and styles.

Pre-qualified artists will have the opportunity to create artwork that will play a role in creating a lasting impression of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games experience for millions of people worldwide.

The program is founded on the themes of tradition, culture and education — using visually powerful art and signage — and celebrates and builds understanding of the rich cultures and traditions of the Aboriginal peoples in Canada. The art created for Vancouver 2010 venues will be seen by thousands of visitors every year after the Games.

VANOC invites Aboriginal artists from across Canada to embrace this exciting opportunity to be involved in a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Visit vancouver2010.com or www.bcbid.gov.bc.ca to review the Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEOI) and the details required to respond to this RFEOI.

Please note this is not a call for artists' designs, themes or concepts for these venues. Any submission containing such designs, themes or concepts will be disqualified and will not be considered.

Closing Time

Friday, August 15, 2008 at 2:00 pm (Pacific Time)

Contact

VANOC
Procurement
400-3585 Graveley Street
Vancouver, BC, V5K 5J5 Canada
Telephone: 778 328 2010
Facsimile: 778 328 2011
E-mail: procurement@vancouver2010.com

DEMANDE DE DÉCLARATION D'INTÉRÊT
ET D'ÉNONCÉS DE QUALIFICATIONS
DDI n° 1019

Programme d'arts autochtones aux sites de Vancouver 2010

Émise par : Comité d'organisation des Jeux olympiques et
paralympiques d'hiver de 2010 à Vancouver (« COVAN »)

Résumé de l'offre:

Le COVAN est à la recherche de talentueux artistes autochtones canadiens, possédant de l'expérience et qui aimeraient prendre part au Programme d'arts autochtones aux sites de Vancouver 2010. Le COVAN accepte la candidature d'artistes inuits, métis ou de Premières nations, ayant différents antécédents et méthodes de travail ainsi que de différents niveaux professionnels.

Les artistes préqualifiés auront l'occasion de créer une œuvre d'art qui marquera l'expérience des Jeux vécue par les millions de gens qui viendront assister aux Jeux d'hiver de 2010.

Les piliers de ce programme sont la tradition, la culture et l'éducation. Ces valeurs seront représentées à l'aide d'œuvres d'art et d'affiches informatives, et elles célébreront la riche culture ainsi que les traditions des peuples autochtones canadiens en plus de sensibiliser les gens à ce sujet. Toutes les œuvres d'art créées pour les sites des Jeux olympiques et paralympiques d'hiver de 2010 à Vancouver seront vues annuellement par des milliers de visiteurs.

Le COVAN invite tous les artistes autochtones du Canada à saisir cette palpitante occasion de participer à une expérience qui sera assurément unique. Visiter le site vancouver2010.com ou bcbid.com pour consulter la demande de déclaration d'intérêt et d'énoncés de qualifications ou pour obtenir les détails permettant la mise en candidature.

Il faut noter que cette demande de déclaration d'intérêt et d'énoncés de qualifications ne demande pas aux artistes de concevoir les sites de Vancouver 2010 ou d'en établir les thématiques et différents concepts. Toutes les soumissions comprenant de telles suggestions seront disqualifiées et ne seront pas retenues.

Date et heure de clôture:

Le 15 août 2008 à 14 h (heure du Pacifique)

Personne-ressource:

COVAN
Approvisionnement
3585, rue Graveley, bureau 400
Vancouver (C.-B.) V5K 5J5 Canada
Téléphone: (778) 328 2010
Télécopieur: (778) 328 2011
Courriel: procurement@vancouver2010.com

work in Australia and Hawaii. I also worked on court cases or negotiations for Aboriginal people in Nicaragua, Belize, Brazil, New Zealand, Norway, Taiwan and many other countries.

I realized a personal dream of going a number of times to the United Nations and other places in the world to help people. I took part in the drafting of international conventions, preparing arguments before supreme courts and governments, and spoke with many world leaders. To me it was realizing a dream of wanting to help people in whatever way I could.

While in Arizona, I was asked to help Vine Deloria Jr., a renowned native leader and writer, teach an advanced treaties class. He is someone that *Time* magazine had called one of the most important thinkers of the last 100 years.

We became good friends. He told me his dream when he was young was to be able to go to college and to get married but he could afford to do neither because he came from a poor community. He joined the military to save enough money to go to college. After college, he took a job that gave him enough money to afford to get married and have a family.

When Deloria Jr. left his reserve and through his first college degree, he had difficulty writing but he continued to work at it. Eventually, he wrote 28 books – books that challenged what had been written about native people for hundreds of years.

So whenever you go to college or university do not worry if you are not as good as the other students in math, writing or whatever you are in class with them. People who have made incredible differences in peoples' lives have been

probably in the same situation as you, and continued to work hard to achieve their goals.

So, if there are some words of advice I can offer in terms of career choices, it's that you should not underestimate yourself as you can build whatever skills you want to achieve. It is never too late to start something. A job or career can help you attain your dreams but it does not make you who you are. Do not exhaust yourself trying to do the impossible but excel at the possible. Respect, community and kind acts can change everyone's world for the better, and that what comes from within people will respond to.

If participants take something away from the Second Annual Career Fair it should be that now is the time to achieve your dreams. You can make a difference no matter what you choose to do in life, and it is never too late.



Interview with **HENRY MIANSUM**

By Will Nicholls

Henry Mianscum is the director of Cree Human Resources Development (CHRD) for the Cree Regional Authority, a position he has held for almost seven years.

The Nation: The first job fair was held in Chisasibi and the second was held inland in Mistissini.

Mianscum: Yes, we're hoping to continue that idea of alternating between inland and coastal sites. It's a lot of work and by the time we can plan the third one there is little time left so we are considering having the job fairs every two years to give it the best planning and development possible. We haven't decided this yet but definitely the job fairs will continue.

You have a lot of different businesses here.

We're very appreciative we have so many different businesses at the job fair. We had 30 and had only hoped for 15 or 20. We are very thankful and fortunate that there were so many people committed to helping our young people find an interest and perhaps a career in their fields.

So this is an investment for the future?

Well, it is. The one in Chisasibi had people who pursued careers in one of the companies or organizations exhibited. It reached a certain number of youth and we're hoping to do the same thing here in Mistissini.

I was reading a report from Statistics Canada that said the number of Aboriginal youth who don't achieve a high school diploma is basically unchanged from the last census. Is this something you are trying to change by interesting youth in careers and knowing there are careers out there?

Yes, very much so. If you look at the recent statistics of the Cree School Board you'll know they are facing a huge challenge in improving the academics programs in the Cree communities. That's their domain but what we are trying to do is find an alternative option for these people who dropped out of high school. What we are thinking is that through the career fair they will have an opportunity to pick up one or two brochures that will show them there is a possibility to become plumber, a police officer, a game warden or whatever. That's a choice they have to make.

I would just like to mention that very recently we at the CHRD made a proposal to the CSB that involves the Cree apprenticeship or trades strategy program. We're trying to gain their interest so they'll support that program. That way



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For this academic year 2008-2009, Sabtuan Continuing Education will continue to offer general upgrading courses and a variety of vocational training programs that offer promising careers in the following trade groups:

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HEALTH ASSISTANCE AND NURSING

BUSINESS AND OFFICE MANAGEMENT

STARTING A BUSINESS

SECRETARIAL STUDIES

ACCOUNTING

COMPUTING SUPPORT

CONSTRUCTION, EQUIPMENT AND TRANSPORTATION

CARPENTRY

NORTHERN BUILDING MAINTENANCE

PLASTERING

NORTHERN HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATIONS

CABINET MAKING

HOME APPLIANCE REPAIR

FIREARMS REPAIR

CONSTRUCTION ELECTRICITY

TRUCKING

NATURAL RESOURCES

PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF WILDLIFE

FACT:

Since 1996-1997, students who have completed their 3 basic courses in Secondary 3 can enroll in a Diploma of Vocational Studies (DVS) program, even if they don't meet the DVS admission criteria.

Please contact your local Education Consultant at Sabtuan Continuing Education in your community or Charles Matoush, Director, at 418-923-2764, ext. 327 for more information on start dates and prerequisites to our courses and programs.

Visit us online at www.sabtuan.org

we will capture that clientele that have dropped out of school. So there would be an option for people to come back to school in a vocational or technical setting. We can help provide that support with them. We can't do it on our own as we need the pedagogical mandate of the CSB. So that is something we are trying to do. Everything has come out of the career fairs.

So you see this as a step towards the future?

I would say it is a different step in a different direction that we should be focusing our resources on. The CHRD is prepared to make that change and lead the change. We are looking at getting our leaders to support that direction where we will be focused on our clients' interests differently than in the past. If we do that then we will have more accomplishments by individuals going into any field of their choice. When they graduate they will be professionals in that trade.

In our present stage we are in a project-driven program in which we try to create employment and training programs for our people, but there is no guarantee that these people will have a permanent job or career when everything is completed.



RCMP Booth - Police Officer Hugo Lavoie, with youth

because we have walked that same path before. There are more opportunities today than there were 15 years and more ago.

nity had zero economic development and now has one of the highest in the country. It's quite a remarkable story and my hat goes off to him.

"CHIEF CLARENCE LOUIE TOOK HIS COMMUNITY, WHICH HAD THE HIGHEST UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, TO TODAY WITH THE LOWEST UNEMPLOYMENT RATE."

We want to optimize the use of our dollars and have something very positive for our youth to fall back on as a career. So career fairs such as this provides a beginning of their decision to change the direction of their lives.

I've noticed you have a lot of very good motivational speakers lined up too.

Well, you know it's mostly the youth who can motivate the youth. That's something we are trying to achieve. I think a lot of the elderly professional people are here to support the youth

That's why it is important to optimize the services or capacity building of any program for our young people is something we all strive for. But it must be realized it is up to the youth to make the first step. We're just there to support their actions.

Who's your keynote speaker this year?

I haven't met Chief Clarence Louie yet. He's from out west and a very well known person in the sense he took his community, which had the highest unemployment rate, to today with the lowest unemployment rate. His commu-

There's John Kim Bell?

Yes, he's a symphony orchestra leader and a well-known international figure. He started up the Aboriginal Role Models campaign. He's a vice-president of an international multi-billion dollar company. I feel he's going to be a great motivational speaker. We're very grateful to have him.

I feel that all the speakers, exhibitors and participants have made this fair a huge success. The CHRD is very pleased with what is happening here. It was due to a lot of hard work on many people's part to make it the success that it is.



PATRICK DESCARREAU
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MOTEL ERIC DESCHAMPS (St-Bernard-de-Lacolle, 500 pi du Parc Safari, piscine ext.)	(458) 247-2346	140 \$ ¹	201 \$ ¹
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HOLIDAY INN MONTREAL-LONGUEUIL (piscine int. spa, gym / les enfants mangent gratuitement)	1 800 263-0150	188 \$ ¹	239 \$ ¹

* Incluant l'hébergement en occupation double ou quadruple et l'admission pour 2 personnes ou 2 adultes et 2 enfants (17 ans et moins) au Parc Safari 2 journées consécutives. Valable du 21 juin au 01 septembre 2008, selon disponibilité. Tarification basse saison aussi disponible du 16 mai au 20 juin, du 25 au 29 août et du 02 septembre au 13 octobre 2008. Taxes en sus. **Possibilité de séjour de 2 nuits.** ⁽¹⁾ Tarif à partir de

SSSSST..... Have any information the rest of the Cree Nation should know? Call the Nation at 514-272-3077

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◀ Group from Wemindji who attended training on the manual felling techniques, on the use of the chainsaw and the brushcutter.

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COMMISSION DES PAYS-DES-BLEUETS

150 9001 : 2000

Pow Wow heals painful past

By Jeaidat Matoush



Most articles I read on the Kahnawake Pow Wow are about the Oka Crisis and how it started the Pow Wow tradition in Kahnawake. It is true that this incident revealed many prejudices

against Native peoples in the Montreal area. The purpose of the first Pow Wow in 1991 was to help the Mohawk people get over and heal from what happened during the crisis. But that was 18 years ago. This year's Pow Wow is proof that they have accomplished just that.

Now people are looking past what happened in the summer of 1990 and seeing Aboriginal people for what they really are – a people that is struggling to conserve what little is left of what they cherish: land, culture, and traditions. I believe the Pow Wow is now about so much more than the Oka crisis.

While Sunday didn't attract more than 2,000 people because of the rainy weather, Saturday's festivities welcomed over 5,000. I went on the Saturday, parking in the street since it would have taken us a good half hour if we would have waited in line for the parking.

After paying the seven-dollar entrance fee, which I thought was reasonable for a whole day of entertainment, we finally were able to enter the action. The first thing I noticed was the food! As gross as it sounds, the smell of the grease in the air was so tantalizing.

There were about 20 food stands with everything; strawberry juice, snow cones, Indian tacos, moose meat, walleye pop corn, salmon plates and buffalo burgers. I personally opted for the walleye pop corn and the Indian taco which were both extremely tasty. I could have eaten more but needed to control myself!

The drums, the songs and the dances were truly the focus of the 18th annual Pow Wow. Without the drums and the singing, there would be no dances, no competition. Music and dancing, together along with the effort the dancers put into having stunning traditional dresses was really amazing to look at. Every category, including the men's straight or traditional dance, women's traditional dance, intertribal dance, men's grass dance, women's jingle, women's fancy, and men's fancy had their own styles and age groups. The beauty of the dancers amazed me.

If only I had more money, the damage I could have done in the arts and crafts stands would have been memorable. Moccasins, carvings, jewellery, and paintings – everything was so beautiful and tempting.

The only thing that made me gasp was a stand that was selling posters. One of the featured posters read: "Get off our land." Beneath this was a picture of men dressed in camouflage and holding machine guns. It was just a tad contradictory to the purpose of the whole weekend, which was to bring everyone together in peace, have fun and show others about Native culture. Besides that, the kiosks were fun to look at, even if you didn't have any money to spend!

While I was at the Pow Wow, I saw people from many different ethnic backgrounds. There were Asians snapping pictures, Indians (from India!) pointing at the dancers' costumes, black people looking at the arts and crafts. Everybody was looking everywhere so fast as if not to miss any of the action going on around them.

How far the Kahnawake Pow Wow has come in 18 years. This special weekend is not about healing anymore; it's about showing, teaching, sharing and of course, having fun!

EMPLOYMENT



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If you are interested and meet the requirements, please forward your application along with your résumé **no later than August 15, 2008**, to the attention of:

Jimmie Neacappo

jimyneacappo@hotmail.com
James Bay Eeyou Corporation
P.O. Box 360
Chisasibi, Quebec
J0M 1E0



CREE NATION FIREFIGHTER CHALLENGE

On July 5 and 6, Mistissini hosted the 8th annual Cree Nation Firefighter Challenge.

With a total of 530 points, Waswanipi was the winner of the men's section of the team competitions. In second, not far behind came Waskaganish with 500 points and Nemaska was third with 445 points.

As for the women's team competition, Chisasibi took first place scoring 590 points. Mistissini came second with 550 points and third with 480 points was Whapmagoostui.

Also part of the event was the individual competition which was separated in three different parts; Men's 35 plus,

Women's and Men's under 35. The winner of men's 35 plus was Scott Stevens from Waskaganish. Winner of the women's section was Chisasibi's Leanne Pepabano. Finally, the winner of the men's under 35 was John Paul Wapachee from Nemaska. Congratulations to all the winners!

Men's Winning Team: Waswanipi.

(First person unknown), Leeroy Blacksmith, Ghislain Ottereyes, Wally Cheezo, Richard Blacksmith, Fire Chief; Dan Oblin.

Women's Winning Team: Chisasibi

Wesley Ann Coonishish, Catherine Wash, Eileen Stewart, Josephine Sam, Lee Ann Pepabano.



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UNDER THE NORTHERN SKY

Taking the poison out of the land

by Xavier Kataquapit

In January 1999, I wrote a column describing a snowmobile trip my dad, my brothers and I took north of Attawapiskat in the middle of February. On that adventure I experienced the coldest winter temperatures of my life. Our destination was Lakitusaki River, or as it is known in English, Lake River, right in the heart of Polar Bear Provincial Park in the north-eastern corner of Ontario where James Bay and Hudson Bay meet.

As part of our visit to prepare for the spring goose hunt and set up supplies for March, we took a side trip north to an abandoned radar station. That location is a remnant of the Cold War years and it was one of many stations that were set up in remote northern Canada to warn of Soviet missiles flying over the North Pole. The station we visited was site 415, where it is located on a rise of land in the midst of flat featureless tundra.

The location is an amazing testament to the will, determination and ingenuity of people who organize themselves to accomplish the near impossible. The station is located about 500 kilometres from the nearest rail or roadway. It is an amazing sight, with four enormous radar dishes that stand over 50 feet high and a lot of technical equipment.

At the time of construction, technology and support facilities to run everything were transported by tractors over winter roads or by heavy lifting aircraft. Everything to maintain this facility including fuel, oil, building supplies and machinery had to be brought in. Essentially, a whole community of people and enough material to build a small town were brought into this wilderness as part of the game of "who will pull the trigger first."

Unfortunately, this building and the supplies also brought 1950s-era chemicals, toxic materials and oils into untouched wilderness. Back then, no one really knew the toxic effects of PCBs, asbestos or large amounts of oil and associated chemicals. All these were hauled onto the land in great quantities.

As soon as technology improved to offer a better warning system, these radar stations became obsolete and there was no more need to maintain or keep them operational. Instead of going through the difficult task of dismantling the stations and taking everything away, the military officials who led the march onto the tundra decided instead to leave everything behind. To them it made economic sense to

abandon everything rather than to go through the expensive task of transporting material south again.

The abandoned materials include hundreds of gallons of fuel, gasoline and oil, as well as working vehicles, tractors and trucks. There are several buildings that housed all sorts of chemicals, PCBs and other toxins.

I remember speaking to several Elders from the James Bay coast who were hired to dismantle and salvage most of the really expensive equipment. They explained that valuable equipment and even vehicles that could not be recovered were buried in the ground. The rest was left to rot, rust, drain and soak into the land. So much was left behind that, for years after the decommissioning, hunters, trappers or traditional travelers would regularly visit the site to gather building material, fuel or even gas for their snowmobiles.

I was surprised to later learn that this was just one of about a hundred sites of different types that were set up in northern Canada during the 1950s. In the late 1980s, many communities along the James Bay coast began to learn of the dangers that former stations like site 415 posed to the land. In fact, scientists and ecologists determined that the contamination was slowly affecting the surrounding wildlife and the people who harvested these animals.

I am now happy to report that the Mushkegowuk Council, a tribal council that represents the communities along the James Bay coast, established the Mushkegowuk Environmental Research Centre (MERC) in 2005 to conduct research into the environment and natural resources on the western James Bay basin in Ontario. The organization's work includes the study of ecological and health effects caused by the contamination of locations like site 415 and other military installations in the Mushkegowuk area.

As part of an ongoing effort to inform people about this environmental disaster, MERC has developed a video, available through their website at www.merc.ontera.net. It is an informative and educational video that tells the story of these ghostly, toxic radar stations. A decade ago, few people knew about these sites but with the establishment of MERC, we now have a core group of people who are working hard to deal with these abandoned toxic stations.

Meegwetch to MERC for helping to bring this issue to light. Finally, the land is being cleansed of this poison.

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BIRTHDAYS

Hey, I'd like to wish "my best friend" happy birthday. Her birthday is July 16th. I hope u enjoy ur day. Don't party too much. Lol! Well, be good my friend... Lol! I'm not gonna write ur name and I'm not writing my name but I'm sure u'll figure it out... From your best friend in Mist.

On July 18th, 2005, at 8:42 AM, a beautiful girl came out. We would like to wish her a happy birthday. Her Name is Joey-Lynn Willena Longchap. Happy birthday my girl! Time flies fast. Wow, 3 years old! We love you so much my girl. 'Hope you have a wonderful birthday. Ur always singing happy birthday before ur birthday. U know it's around the corner eh? 'Love always, Mom and Dad.

I am sending a belated birthday wish to my loving mother, Dorothy Gull Happyjack. Her birthday was on June 23rd, 2008. I love you so much mom! Thank you from the bottom of my heart for helping me through everything! I thank the Lord for giving me a mother so beautiful and as strong as you are! I love you Mom! You're the best! =) Oh yeah, it's better late than never nah? 'Wish you a birthday wish? Lol! I love you mom! Love always, ur only daughter, Melanie Gull Neeposh!

Someone very special in our lives will be celebrating her birthday on July 17th. Long, black hair, brown eyes and skin, funny, exciting, and the younger one: my sister. A pest, but the best. Small, but fun. A blooming flower. My companion, my friend, my sister. I love you, Kate Gabrielle Menutan. Happy 5th birthday! Also, to my lil brother Thomas J. who will be celebrating his 1st birthday on July 24th. I love you both so, so much!



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Public Notice

Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs

NATURAL HERITAGE CONSERVATION ACT (R.S.Q., c. C 61.01)

Temporary protection status assigned as a proposed biodiversity reserve

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with section 29 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act (R.S.Q., c. C 61.01), that

(1) the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks has assigned, by Minister's Order dated 29 May 2008, temporary protection status as a proposed biodiversity reserve to the territories whose name and location appear in Schedule, for a term of four years commencing on the date of publication of the notice in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*;

(2) the permanent protection status proposed for those territories is biodiversity reserve, in continuation with the temporary status already assigned, the granting of permanent status being governed by the Natural Heritage Conservation Act.

(3) A copy of the plan of the new proposed biodiversity reserves may be obtained on payment of a fee by contacting Madame Joanne Laberge, Direction du patrimoine écologique et des parcs, Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs, 675 boulevard René-Lévesque Est, 4^e étage, boîte 21, Québec (Québec) G1R 5V7; telephone 418 521-3907, extension 4426; fax 418 646-6169 or e-mail: joanne.laberge@mddep.gouv.qc.ca.

LINE BEAUCHAMP

Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks

SCHEDULE

Proposed Paakumshumwaau-Maataskaau biodiversity reserve

Location: The proposed biodiversity reserve is located in the Nord-du-Québec administrative region, between 52°30' and 53°15' north latitude and 76°46' and 78°53' west longitude.

Proposed Lac-Dana biodiversity reserve

Location: The proposed biodiversity reserve is located in the Nord-du-Québec administrative region, between 50°46' and 51°0' north latitude and 77°3' and 77°27' west longitude.

Proposed Tourbières-Boisées-du-Chiwakamu biodiversity reserve

Location: The proposed biodiversity reserve is located in the Nord-du-Québec administrative region, between 51°0' and 51°8' north latitude and 76°57' and 77°11' west longitude.

Québec

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Youth helpline: 1-800-263-2266 (www.teljeunes.com)

Parent helpline: 1-800-361-5085 (www.parenthelpline.ca)

Drugs: help and reference: 1-800-265-2626 (www.drogue-aidereference.qc.ca)

Gambling: help and reference: 1-800-265-2626 (www.info-reference.qc.ca)

S.O.S. Conjugal Violence: 1-800-363-9010 (www.sosviolenceconjugale.com)

Health and Sexuality resources center:

1-888-855-7432 (Monday to Friday, 9 am to 5 pm) (www.criss.org)

Gay Helpline: 1-888-505-1010 (Monday to Friday, 8 am to 3 am and Saturday-Sunday, 11 am to 3 am)

The Native Women's Shelter of Montreal:

1-866-403-4688. (www.nwsm.info)

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